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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT
TO 37 CFR §1.116 REQUESTED
Attn: Mail Stop AF**

Entered
Drew AF
5/10/04

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APR 05 2004

Technology Center 2600

Applicants: Shunji MAEDA et al.

Serial No.: 09/294,137

Filed: April 20, 1999

For: **DEFECT INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**

Group: 2621

Examiner: Brian P. Werner

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Attn: Mail Stop AF

March 31, 2004

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action (Paper No. 25) dated on December 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.